



Route 17 Reconstruction Essex County

***"Pardon Our Dust" Meeting
February 2014***

Why is this project being built?

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) is reconstructing approximately 1,000 feet of Route 17 near June Parker Marina in Tappahannock to elevate the road, alleviating flooding.

VDOT and its contractor will build a new bridge and approach roadway. The new bridge and approach slabs will be at higher elevation than the existing road and box culvert.

How will construction affect vehicle traffic?

Route 17 will be narrowed to two travel lanes, with an eastbound and westbound travel lane remaining open throughout the project.

During the project's first phase, traffic will be shifted to the existing westbound lanes of Route 17. Later in the project, traffic will be shifted toward the eastbound lanes. During the third and final phase, traffic will be shifted again into the westbound lanes.

Concrete barriers will divide motorists from the work zone.

Motorists are encouraged to stay alert and proceed with caution as they approach the work zone and the new traffic pattern.

When will the project start and finish?

Construction began on January 20, 2014, and will conclude by May 2, 2016.

Will there be a change in the speed limit?

The speed limit will remain posted at 35 mph in the project work zone.

What other features are included in the project?

In addition to the bridge, the project will add a sidewalk along eastbound Route 17, with grass space provided along the westbound lanes.

After construction, the updated section of Route 17 will have four travel lanes with curb and gutter. The inside travel lanes will be 12 feet, and the outside lanes will be 14 feet to accommodate bicyclists.

Who can I contact if I have a question or concern?

You can reach a VDOT representative 24 hours a day, seven days a week at 1-800-FOR-ROAD (800-367-7623). You can also contact VDOT Communications, Fredericksburg District, at 540-374-3344, or send an email to Fredericksburginfo@vdot.virginia.gov.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

For real-time work zone, incident and traffic information, check 511Virginia before starting a trip.

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